



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

June 6, 2007

S. 324

New Mexico Aquifer Assessment Act of 2007

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on May 23, 2007*

SUMMARY

S. 324 would require the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to conduct a study of water resources in five New Mexico ground water basins. Assuming appropriation of the necessary funds, CBO estimates that conducting those studies would cost \$15 million over the 2008-2012 period. Enacting S. 324 would not affect direct spending or revenues.

The legislation contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 324 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation would fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION					
Estimated Authorization Level	6	6	3	0	0
Estimated Outlays	4	4	4	2	1

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that S. 324 will be enacted before the end of 2007 and that the necessary amounts will be appropriated for each year. The bill would require USGS to study water resources in five separate New Mexico ground water basins. Based on information provided by the USGS, CBO expects the studies would begin over the next three years and be completed within five years. Using information provided by the agency, CBO estimates that carrying out the proposed studies would cost \$15 million over the 2008-2012 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 324 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined by UMRA and would impose no costs state, local, or tribal governments.

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